



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/943,705	10/03/1997	TADASHI NAKAYAMA	JA032445	9613
25944	7590	10/27/2003	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			MOE, AUNG SOE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2612	

DATE MAILED: 10/27/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	08/943,705	NAKAYAMA ET AL. <i>[Handwritten signature]</i>
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Aung S. Moe	2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 September 2003.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

Art Unit: 2612

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed on September 08, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding claim 1-30, the Applicant alleged in the page 13+ of the remarks that "Dwyer '457 fails to describe; teach, or suggest an apparatus executing a predetermined process for the main image data, the sub image data and the sub image data and the sound data, as recited in independent claims 1, 8, 9, and 10."

In response, the Examiner respectfully disagrees because the present claimed invention is rejected under the combination of Dwyer '457 and Suga '191, and the combination of Dwyer '457 and Suga '191 does in fact show the claimed limitations as being obvious within the level of skill in the art at the time the invention was made. In particular, the apparatus (i.e., the controller 11) of Dwyer '457 is capable of executing a predetermined process (i.e., see Figs. 3-10) for the main image data (i.e., the digitized images from the external sources) and the sub image data (i.e., noted the thumbnail images as discussed in col. 2, lines 10+).

Furthermore, the Examiner acknowledged in the last Final Office Action that although Dwyer '457 shows the use of the digital audio tape drive (21), Dwyer '457 particularly fails to teach the use of the sound data as required by the present claimed invention.

However, Suga '191 clearly teaches that recording the main image data, the sub image data and the sound data in the camera (i.e., Fig. 2, 13, 18A and 18B of Suga '191) and inputting such data to the information processing apparatus (i.e., Note that the data for the camera is inputted to the Host Computer for further process as shown in Fig. 24; see col. 20, lines 25+ of

Art Unit: 2612

Suga '191). In view of this, since Suga '191 teaches that it is conventionally well known to download (i.e., input) the data from the external to the information processing apparatus (i.e., the Host Computer 2415) and wherein the information processing apparatus is capable of reading the main image data, the sub image data (i.e., the thumbnail image) and the sound data from the camera (i.e., see Fig. 24), it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Dwyer '457 by providing the electronic equipment as taught by Suga '191. In this case, Suga '191 clearly suggest in col. 2, lines 20+ that such a modification would provide the recording apparatus for effectively recording, searching and deleting captured data and various types of property data corresponding to the captured data thereof.

In page 13 of the remarks, the Applicant alleged that "Dwyer '457 also fails to describe, teach, or suggest each reading unit including **at least one of** main image data, sub image data, and sound data, as recited in independent claims 15, 21-23, 25 and 27-29."

In response, the Examiner respectfully disagrees because the present claimed invention specifically stated that **at least one of** "the main image data", "the sub image data" and "the sound data". In view of this, it is cleared that the information processing system (i.e., Fig. 1, the element 11) of Dwyer '457 is capable of reading the main image data (i.e., the image data) from the external electronic equipments as shown in Fig. 1 (i.e., see col. 1, lines 40+), thus, Dwyer '457 does in fact meet the claimed requirement by reading at least one of "main image data".

In page 13 of the remarks, the Applicant alleged "the Examiner has failed to show a motivation to combine the cited references", "it is impermissible simply to engage in a hindsight reconstruction of the claimed invention".

Art Unit: 2612

In response to applicant's argument that the examiner's conclusion of obviousness is based upon improper hindsight reasoning, it must be recognized that any judgment on obviousness is in a sense necessarily a reconstruction based upon hindsight reasoning. But so long as it takes into account only knowledge which was within the level of ordinary skill at the time the claimed invention was made, and does not include knowledge gleaned only from the applicant's disclosure, such a reconstruction is proper. See *In re McLaughlin*, 443 F.2d 1392, 170 USPQ 209 (CCPA 1971).

In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992).

In this case, the Examiner has set forth in the Final Office Action reasons why one skilled in the art, and therefore possessing knowledge generally available to the skilled artisan, would have been motivated to combine the cited references. In particular, Suga '191 clearly suggest in col. 2, lines 20+ that such a modification would provide the recording apparatus for effectively recording, searching and deleting captured data and various types of property data corresponding to the captured data thereof. In view of this, the Examiner continues to be of the opinion that one skilled in the art would have been prompted to combine the cited reference.

In page 14 of the remarks, the Applicant alleged that "even if the digital camera of Suga '191 was able to store image data, sub image data, and audio data, the invention of Dwyer '457

Art Unit: 2612

would be unable to handle the audio data and sub image data supplied to it by the digital camera of Suga '191, because the processes of Dwyer '457 as previously described in Figs. 3-10 have absolutely no ability to handle sub image data or audio data. Therefore, Dwyer '457 and Suga '191, either alone or in combination, fail to describe, teach or suggest the above claimed limitations of independent claims 1, 8-10, 15, 21-23, 25 and 27-29."

In response, the Examiner respectfully disagrees because Dwyer '457 discloses the use of the thumbnail images (i.e., the sub image data as claimed; see col. 2, lines 10+), thus, it is cleared that Dwyer '457 is capable of handling the main image data and the sub image data as claimed. On the other hand, Suga '191 suggested that the main image data, the sub image data and the audio data from the camera are inputted to the host computer (i.e., the information processing apparatus as used in the system of Dwyer '457) as shown in Fig. 24, so that the host computer is capable of handling the main image data, the sub image data and the audio data read from the camera. Therefore, the system of Dwyer '457 may be modify as taught by Suga '191 for the same reasons as discussed above, and such a modification is well known and clearly within the level of ordinary skill in the art as evidenced by Suga '191.

In pages 14+ of the remarks, the Applicant alleged "Dwyer '457 fails to describe, teach or suggest that *the electronic equipment stores at least one of main image data, sub image data and sound data, each of the data having information relating to types of said data and identical second information that identifies inter-relationships among said data,*"

In response, the Examiner respectfully disagrees because as discussed above, the claimed limitation only required at least one of "main image data", "sub image data" and

Art Unit: 2612

“**audio/sound data**”. In this case, Dwyer '457 clearly shows the use of “main image data” as discussed above.

Furthermore, it is cleared that when the digitized image, audio or document data are inputted to the computer (11), these digitized information data inputted from the external electronic equipment normally contain “header information” along with the digitized image, audio or document data to allow the computer (11) for properly relating whether the types of the data stored in the external electronic equipment the digitized image data, audio data or document data. Therefore, with the use of the digital header information of the input digitized image, audio or document data, the computer (11) is capable of automatically archiving of digitized data in the related image/audio or document files respectively. In view of this, it is cleared that the information relating to types of the data (i.e., the header information of the input image data, audio data or the document data) stored in the electronic equipment **must be provided** **(inputted)** along with the image/audio or document data when such digitized data are acquired from the electronic equipment (i.e., the digital camera, scanner, or modem) by the computer (11) in order to properly archiving the input digitized data for further used. For example, if the information relating to types of the data stored in the electronic equipment is not inputted, then the computer (11) will not be able to properly archive the acquired data because the image data may be mistaken as either an audio data or the document data.

Thus, when the digitized data (i.e., the image, audio or document data) are inputted from the external electronic equipment, the ‘first information’ (i.e., an inherent feature of the header information of the digitized image/audio or the digitized document inputted from the external electronic equipment is considered as “the first information” as broadly claimed) relating to

Art Unit: 2612

types of the digitized data stored in the external electronic equipment (i.e., the equipment 23/25) is inherently provided to the computer (11) along with either the image, an audio or the document data so that the computer (11) will be able to automatically perform specific processing function to create the archive files based on the first information (i.e., the header information of the image files, Audio files, or the document files) relating to types of the images, audio or document files stored in the external electronic equipment (i.e., the Scanner 23, the Digital Camera/Data back, or Modem as shown in Fig. 1).

Furthermore, Dwyer '457 discloses the use of the identical second information (i.e., the text data such that the time and date when a picture was taken along with the serial number of the camera 25; see col. 2, lines 10+ and col. 4, lines 60+ of Dwyer '457) so that this data is used to identified inter-relationships amongst the image/audio data or document data of the external electronic equipment (i.e., the camera 25). In other word, when the data are captured by the same camera on the same day, the recorded data may contain identical second information data (i.e., the time/date data and the serial number of the camera my be identical for the recorded data so that the data may be grouped in the same location during the editing process performed in the system of Dwyer '457) that identifies inter-relationships among the recorded data thereof.

In addition, the computer (11) is capable of correlating the first information having, e.g., the header information of the digitized image data, into units (i.e., the Album file units as shown in Figs. 2/2a) based on the second information such that the text data (i.e., the time and date when a picture was taken along with the serial number of the camera 25). Therefore, when the camera 25 is attached to the computer (11) for inputting the digitized images data, this digitized images data may include the first information (i.e., the header information of the digitized image

Art Unit: 2612

data) so that the computer (11) is capable of determining that the type of the input data from the camera 25 is the digitized image data and not the document/audio data (i.e., noted that the header information is related to the digitized image data stored in the memory of the camera 25).

Moreover, the computer (11) is capable of correlating the digitized image data having the specific header information (i.e., noted that the header information is relating the image data stored in the camera 24) inputted from the camera 25 for creating the album file for the image data based on the second information such that the time and date of the picture were taken and the serial number of the digital camera 25.

Furthermore, Suga '191 teaches that it is conventionally well-known to store the main image data, sub image data and sound data in the digital camera(i.e., see Fig. 1 of Suga '191). In particular, it is clearly obvious from the Figs. 1, 5, 18A-B, and 30 of Suga '191 that the image/sub and sound data are stored in the memory along with the first information relating to types of the data stored in the memory of the camera (i.e., noted that the image/sound data contains the management/header information to map the image/audio files therein; see col. 7, lines 40- col. 8, lines 50) and the identical second information for identifying the inter-relationship among the data (i.e., the ID information, the property information of the image/audio data as shown in Figs. 5, 10, 18A/B and 20; noted that both the main image data file and the audio filed contain the identical DATE, MODE, SYSTEM, MANUFACTURING NUMBER, ID NUMBER as shown in Figs. 18A and 18B, thus, it is cleared that if the main image data and the sound data are captured on the same day/date, then this second information will be identical). In view of this, it is obvious that when such digitized data from the digital camera is inputted to the external computer (i.e., see Fig. 24 of Suga '191), then the first information relating to the types

Art Unit: 2612

of the data stored in the memory of the digital camera and the second information as taught by Suga '191 has to be inputted to the Host/Remote computer as disclosed by Dwyer '457.

In view of the combination of Dwyer '457 and Suga '191 as discussed above, it is noted that the present claimed invention was well-known in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the system of Dwyer '457 as taught by Suga '191 for the reasons discussed above and further details in the Office Action below, the Examiner asserts that this Office Action has clearly established a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

The Examiner maintains the rejections as follows:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 1-7, and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 1, it is unclear how "said second information" recited in lines 11-12 relates to "identical second information" recited in lines 4? If there are the same "second information", the Examiner suggests changing "said second information" recited in lines 11-12 to -- said identical second information -- .

Regarding claim 8, it is unclear how "said second information" recited in lines 12-13 relates to "identical second information" recited in lines 4? If there are the same "second

Art Unit: 2612

information”, the Examiner suggests changing “said second information” recited in lines 12-13 to - - said identical second information - - .

Regarding claim 9, it is unclear how “said second information” recited in line 13 relates to “identical second information” recited in lines 4? If there are the same “second information”, the Examiner suggests changing “said second information” recited in line 13 to - - said identical second information - - .

Regarding claim 10, it is unclear how “said second information” recited in line 14 relates to “identical second information” recited in lines 5? If there are the same “second information”, the Examiner suggests changing “said second information” recited in line 14 to - - said identical second information - - .

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later

Art Unit: 2612

invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dwyer et al. (U.S. 5,706,457) in view of Suga et al. (U.S. 6,192,191).

Regarding claim 1, Dwyer '457 discloses an information processing apparatus (Fig. 1, the elements 10/11) that is electronically connectable to electronic equipment (i.e., Figs. 1 & 3), the electronic equipment (i.e., noted from Fig. 1, the digital camera 25, Scanner 23 and Remote Sources 24) stores at least one of main image data, sub image data and sound data, each of the data having information including first information relating to types of said data (i.e., noted that when the digital image data stored in the digital camera is inputted in the computer 11, this digital data inherently includes the header information relating to the types of data, e.g., the image data, stored in the memory of the camera so that the computer 11 is capable of archiving input information in the respective image archive file for the specific camera) and identical second information that identifies inter-relationships among said data (i.e., the image related data, such as management data, such as TIFF/JPEG header, or the time/data and camera's serial number; see col. 2, lines 10+ and col. 6, lines 40+; noted that when the data are captured by the same camera on the same day/date, then such data contain the identical date/time and serial number of the camera which are attached as text data), the apparatus executing a predetermined process (Figs. 6, 8 & 11) for the main image data stored in said electronic equipment (Fig. 1, the digital camera/scanner), the apparatus comprising:

input means for inputting information from the electronic equipment (Fig. 4, col. 6, lines 25+);

correlation means for correlating said first information into units based on said second information (Figs. 1 and 2a, the element 11; col. 4, lines 50+ and col. 5, lines 3+);

display information generation means for generating display information from the correlated first information which is correlated by said correlating means (i.e., Figs. 1 & 2a, the elements' 10 and 18a); and

output means for outputting the display information generated by said display information generation means for display (Figs. 2a) on a display device (10).

However, it noted that although Dwyer '457 discloses that the main image data stored in the digital camera are transferred to the information processing apparatus (11) and further stored in the information processing apparatus (i.e., the CUP 11) as a main image data and the sub-image data (i.e., the thumbnail images), Dwyer '457 does not explicitly state that the sub image data and the sound data are stored in the electronic equipment such as the digital camera.

However, the above-mentioned claimed limitations are well-known in the art as evidenced by Suga '191. In particular, Suga '191 teaches that the main image data, sub image data and the sound data are respectively stored in the same recording unit of the electronic equipment, such as a digital camera (see Fig. 1, col. 7, lines 40+) so that such data may be transferred to the information processing apparatus, such as a personal computer (Fig. 24, the element 2415), for the further process thereof. In view of this, it is clearly well known in the art at the time invention that the information processing apparatus (i.e., the Host Computer Suga

Art Unit: 2612

'191/the CPU 11 of Dwyer '457) is capable of handing the main image data, sub image data and sound data transferred from the digital camera (i.e., See Fig. 24 of Suga '191).

In view of this, having the system of Dwyer '457 and then given the well-established teaching of Suga '191, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Dwyer '457 by providing the electronic equipment as taught by Suga '191, since Suga '191 states at col. 2, lines 10+ that such a modification would provide the recording apparatus for effectively recording, searching and deleting captured data and various types of property data corresponding to the captured data thereof.

Regarding claim 2, the combination of Dwyer '457 and Suga '191 discloses wherein said electronic equipment is an electronic camera (Fig. 1, noted the digital used in the system of Dwyer '457 and Suga '191) that stores recording units that include at least one of the main image data, the sub image data and the sound data (Fig. 1 of Suga '191), each of the data that is in the same recording unit having the **identical** same second information (Fig. 1, 4-5 and 18A-18B of Suga '191; *noted from Figs. 18A-18B that the image file and the sound file are known to include the identical same second information, such that DATE, MODE, SYSTEM, and ID number*).

Regarding claim 3, the combination of Dwyer '457 and Suga '191 discloses wherein said display information is generated for each said recording unit and comprises at least one first icon whose display format is changed based on the existence of each of the main image data, the sub image data and the sound data included in said recording unit (i.e., Figs. 2/2a; col. 5, lines 3+ and col. 6, lines 5+ of Dwyer '457).

Regarding claim 4, the combination of Dwyer '457 and Suga '191 discloses wherein designating means for designating a second icon which is displayed on said display device (Figs. 2/2a, col. 5, lines 5+ and col. 6, lines 53); and

reading means for reading data from said electronic equipment (i.e., from the camera/scanner as shown in Fig. 1 of Dwyer '457 and Fig. 24 of Suga '191) corresponding to the data associated with the second icon when the second icon is designated by said designation means (Figs. 2 & 2a; col. 6, lines 45+ of Dwyer '457).

Regarding claim 5, the combination of Dwyer '457 and Suga '191 discloses wherein said second icon contains a thumbnail image of the main image data associated with the second icon (Fig. 2a, col. 6, lines 15+ and col. 8, lines 45+ of Dwyer '457), the thumbnail image being a reduction of said main image data by a predetermined ratio (see Fig. 2a of Dwyer '457 and col. 7, lines 60+ of Suga '191).

Regarding claim 6, the combination of Dwyer '457 and Suga '191 discloses designation means for designating one of the recording units and for designating one or more type of data to be deleted from the designated recording unit and deletion means (i.e., noted from the Figs. 1, 3 and 4 that the computer 11 of Dwyer '457 is capable of providing the deleting functions for deleting the designated data from the memory unit of the camera or the storage unit within the computer) for deleting the designated data from the designated recording unit (i.e., see col. 6, lines 15-50 of Dwyer '457; noted that the deleting the particular data stored in the storage unit of the camera or the CPU is commonly known function of the computer 11 of Dwyer '457 and camera 120 of Suga '191).

Art Unit: 2612

Regarding claim 7, the combination of Dwyer '457 and Suga '191 discloses designating means for designating **one of** the recording units and the designating one or more types of data to be read from the designated recording unit (i.e., reading the image data and the image related files stored in the digital camera, scanner or the removable memory of the electronic device as disclosed in Fig. 1 of Dwyer '457 and further taught in Fig. 24 of Suga '191); and recording means for reading the designated data from the designated recording unit into the information processing apparatus (i.e., noted from the Figs. 3-5a of Dwyer '457 that the computer 11 is capable of recording the designated data from the designated recording unit of the electronic equipment to the storage means of the CPU; also see col. 16, lines 55-68 and col. 20, lines 25-40 of Suga '191).

Regarding claim 8, it is noted that claim 8 substantially recited the same limitations as claims 1-7 as discussed above except for the use of an interface and such limitation is clearly disclosed by the combination of Dwyer '457 and Suga '191 (see Fig. 1 of Dwyer '457 and Fig. 24, the Host I/F 2414 of Suga '191), thus, claim 8 is rejected over Dwyer '457 in view of Suga '191 for the same reasons as discussed for claims 1-7 as set forth above.

Regarding claim 9, it is noted that the method claim 9 correspond to the claims 1-7, thus, claim 9 is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claims 1-7 as set forth above.

Regarding claim 10-14, it is noted that claims 10-14 substantially corresponds to the claims 1-7 except for the use of a recording medium that stores a control program and such limitation is disclosed by ^{Dwyer '457} ~~Pent 170~~ (see Fig. 2; noted that the computer 1 contains a recording medium that stores a control program as claimed).

Art Unit: 2612

Regarding claims 15-30, please see the Examiner's comment with respect to claims 1-14 as set forth above. In particular, it noted that Dwyer '457 clearly discloses with the use of conventional types computer system (col. 3, lines 45+ of Dwyer '457) that the image files and the image related data files stored in either on the storage unit of the camera which are inputted to the information processing apparatus (11) (i.e., see Fig. 1 of Dwyer '457) or the storage unit of the computer may be designated for deleting (i.e., col. 6, lines 10-50) with the use of a user interface (i.e., noted the user interface 14/13 of Dwyer '457), and such process routines (i.e., inputting, designating, and deleting) are performed by the computer (11) respectively as shown in Figs. 3-10.

Further, Suga '191 teaches that it is also known to designate the particular recording unit and one or more types of data stored in the memory of the camera for deleting with the use of a user interface (Fig. 25 of Suga '191). In view of this, the present claimed invention is considered well-known in the art as evidenced by the combination of Dwyer '457 and Suga '191, thus, claims 15-30 are rejected over Dwyer '457 in view of Suga '191 for the same reasons as discussed for claims 1-14 as discussed above.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

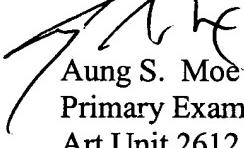
a. Tomizawa '438, Tomizawa '781, Sheridan '917, Schwab '731, Branson '819, Noonan '208, and Fukuoka '212 show the image capturing device is connected to the information processing apparatus for processing the image data captured by the image capturing device at the information processing apparatus thereof.

• Art Unit: 2612

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aung S. Moe whose telephone number is 703-306-3021. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (9-5).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on 703-305-4929. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-5359 for regular communications and 703-308 5359 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-9700.



Aung S. Moe
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2612

A. Moe
September 27, 2003